

BEFORE

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF

SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 97-239-C - ORDER NO. 2003-280

IN RE: Proceeding to Establish Guidelines for an) ORDER GRANTING
Intrastate Universal Service Fund.) REQUEST TO EXTEND
) DEADLINE FOR FILING
) TARIFFS ASSOCIATED
) WITH THE STATE
) UNIVERSAL SERVICE
) FUND

Commission Order No. 2001-996 sets out the guidelines and administrative procedures for the USF, and provides that after the Initial Phase, on April 1 of each year, beginning in 2003, each ILEC receiving USF support may file tariff reductions and request additional USF support to fund the continued removal of implicit support contained in rates. Such filings will be considered by the Commission and a decision rendered by September 1 of the same year for inclusion in the state USF as sized each October 1. Additionally, Order No. 2001-996 provides that companies seeking rate reductions shall also file detailed cost

data clearly demonstrating that implicit support exists in the rates that are proposed to be reduced. Any such tariff filings shall be made by April 1, 2003 and the Commission's decision will be rendered by August 1, 2003.

By letter of March 31, 2003, Verizon filed with the Commission a request that the Commission extend the April 1, 2003 deadline to file its tariffs associated with the USF. Verizon requests that the deadline for filings in the instant docket be extended for sixty (60) days until June 1, 2003.

Verizon states in its Request that on March 25, 2003, the Commission made its decision regarding the USF filings submitted last year by various companies and that an Order of the Commission memorializing its decision is forthcoming. Prior to deciding whether and how to make any filings in this docket, Verizon asserts that the Company would like to review the Commission's Order issued in this matter. According to Verizon, an additional sixty (60) days should provide ample time for the Company to review the Commission's Order, as well as any Order on Reconsiderations that may be necessary before deciding whether and how to file the Company's tariffs in this docket.

The Commission finds and concludes that Verizon's Request for an extension of time to file the Company's tariffs associated with the USF should be granted.

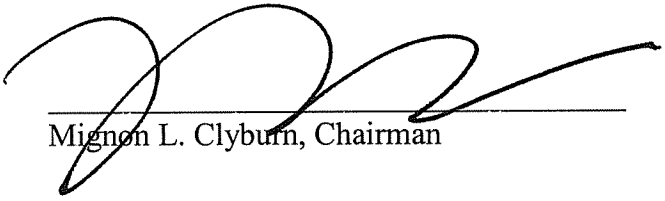
IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The deadline of April 1, 2003, as set forth in Commission Order No. 2001-996, shall be extended to June 1, 2003, for Verizon South Inc. to file the Company's tariffs associated with the South Carolina Universal Service Fund.

APRIL 24, 2003

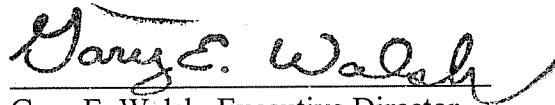
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2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.



Mignon L. Clyburn, Chairman

ATTEST:



Gary E. Walsh, Executive Director

(SEAL)